(c) to what extent has NHAI been adopting a cavilier approach to such committed people who do not receive any financial help or salaries from the NHAI or Government; and

(d) the steps proposed to adopt a graceful and positive attitude by NHAI and Government to road safety organizations?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) gives due consideration to suggestions made by the Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs)/citizens in the field of road safety. One NGO working in the field of road safety has been included in the Group of External Stakeholder of NHAI. This Group advises NHAI on various issues including road safety. Two NGOs have also been engaged in the field of road safety on Gurgaon-Amer, and Surat-Manor Sections of NH-8.

Development of rest areas

3330. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the NHAI has advertised for parties to come and bid for development of rest areas;

(b) if so, the steps that would be taken to select a good and most advanced design for rest areas by NHAI as demanded by the road safety forum;

(c) the steps proposed by NHAI to ensure that a modern and useful design is developed for rest areas along the National Highways as represented by the road safety forum;

(d) whether it is also a fact that a proper and modern design has not been developed by NHAI for rest areas; and

(e) if so, the details of such advertisements and offers by NHAI?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e) National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has invited Expressions of Interest (EOIs) for development of comprehensive wayside amenities (which includes rest areas also) at 11 locations.

In order to finalize a proper and modern design for wayside amenities, bidders have been requested to submit detailed designs and drawings for

developing the facilities. Their technical proposals will be analyzed and evaluated by NHAI before awarding contracts for development of wayside amenities. Any suggestions on the matter received through organizations/ individuals would be considered.

Port connectivity in Goa

3331. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of construction of roads/highways undertaken in Goa under port connectivity;

(b) the date, cost and status of construction;

(c) the details regarding sharing of expenditure;

(d) whether any hurdles have crapped up in the way of constructions; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) To provide connectivity to Mormugao Port, upgradation to 4 lane and strengthening of 18.30 km. length of National Highways No. 17-B has been undertaken at an estimated cost of Rs. 80.00 crore as a part of the Port Connectivity Project under the National Highway Development Project Phase-I. The work has been completed in a length of 13.10 km. up to June, 2004 and the work in the remaining length is yet to be taken up.

(c) The project is being implemented through a Special Purpose Vehicle namely Mormugao Port Road Company Ltd. with the following equity contribution.

National Highway Authority of India	—	Rs. 24.00 crore
Mormugao Port	—	Rs. 20.00 crore
Grant by the Ministry of Commerce	—	Rs. 7.50 crore
Borrowing	—	Rs. 28.50 crore

(d) and (e) Upgradation of 5.20 km. length could not be taken up due to delay in land acquisition, shifting of utilities, rehabilitation and resettlement which is to be done by the State Government.